



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of

THOMAS L. WELSH,
GLENN E. BURKET and
JOSEPH E. DICK

Serial No. 09/975,917

Filed: October 10, 2001

For: CONNECTOR AND METHOD
OF MANUFACTURE


Examiner: ERIK K. NICHOLSON

Group Art Unit 3679

7/ Election
LP
12-21-02

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of this Election was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, this 16th day of December, 2002.


Phillip L. Kenner, Reg. No. 22,353

Attorney Docket No. FLN.P.US0002

ELECTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

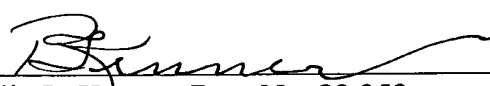
Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated November 15, 2002, Applicants, through their attorneys, reply as follows:

The Examiner has entered a Requirement for Restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 requiring Applicants to elect either the invention of claims 1-16, inclusive, drawn to a connector or the invention of claims 17-20 drawn to a method of manufacturing a connector.

In view of this Requirement, Applicants hereby elect article claims 1-16, inclusive, for further prosecution in this application, it being understood that claims 17-20 will be held in abeyance pending the timely filing of a divisional application thereon.

Respectfully submitted,


Phillip L. Kenner, Reg. No. 22,353
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TAYLOR & WEBER
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Akron, OH 44308-1456
Telephone: (330) 376-1242
Attorney for Applicants

Date: December 16, 2002

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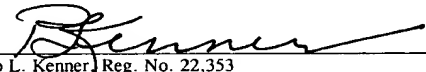
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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of this Transmittal Sheet and attached documents was deposited with the United States Postal Service, with postage for First Class Mail, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, this 16th day of December, 2002.


Phillip L. Kenner, Reg. No. 22,353

Attorney Docket No. FLN.P.US0002

TRANSMITTAL SHEET


COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:
Enclosed are the following documents:

Election (*with Certificate of Mailing*);
Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (*with Certificate of Mailing*);
Copy of International Search Report;
Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation);
Cited references (3 U.S. patents and 1 foreign patent); and
Return Receipt Postcard.

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any deficiency of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0987.


Phillip L. Kenner, Reg. No. 22,353
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